

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of printing data using an identification number of a printer to perform a printing process through a network in which a plurality of printers are respectively connected to a plurality of computers, comprising:
 - receiving identification numbers of each of the printers;
 - receiving a network address of a selected printer corresponding to a predetermined identification number from among the received identification numbers; and
 - transmitting print data to the selected printer to perform the printing process.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving a network address comprising:
 - generating an address request signal having the predetermined identification number and requesting the network address upon a user's print request;
 - transmitting the address request signal to each of the printers;
 - determining whether one of the identification numbers is the same as the predetermined identification number; and
 - receiving the network address from the selected printer when the identification number is the same as the predetermined identification numbers .
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the network address is one of an Internet protocol (IP) address, an Internet packet exchange (IPX) address, and a media access control (MAC) address.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein, in the determining, each printer compares the predetermined identification number included in the transmitted address request signal to its own identification number.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the identification numbers are printer port registration information.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the identification numbers are printer serial numbers.

7. An apparatus for printing data using an identification number of a printer to perform a printing process through a network in which a plurality of printers are respectively connected to a plurality of computers, comprising:

a port setting portion which requests the printers to transmit identification numbers in response to a printer port set request and which stores the received identification numbers;

an identification number transmitting portion which transmits the requested identification numbers;

a request signal generating portion which generates an address request signal requesting a network address of a specific printer among the printers in response to a print request and which outputs the generated address request signal;

an address transmitting portion which transmits the network address in response to the address request signal;

an address receiving portion which receives the transmitted network address;

a data transmitting portion which transmits print data to the specific printer; and

a print portion which prints the transmitted print data.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the address request signal includes an identification number corresponding to the specific printer.

9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the address transmitting portion comprises:

an identification number checking portion checking whether an identification number of a printer having the address transmitting portion and the predetermined identification number are the same, in response to the address request signal having the predetermined identification number, and outputting the result of check as a check signal; and

a transmission portion transmitting the network address of the predetermined printer having the same identification number in response to the check signal.

10. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the network address is one of an Internet protocol (IP) address, an Internet packet exchange (IPX) address, and a media access control (MAC) address.

11. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the identification numbers are printer port registration information.

12. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the identification numbers are printer serial numbers.

13. A method of printing data over a network, comprising:
determining a corresponding printer by generating an address request signal which includes specifying identification information, transmitting the address requesting signal to printers connected to the network, checking whether the specifying identification information matches printer identification information of a printer connected to the network, a printer having printer identification information which matches the specifying identification information being the corresponding printer; and
transmitting print data to the corresponding printer.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein, in the determining, each printer compares the predetermined identification number included in the transmitted address request signal to its own identification number.